

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER

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LITIGATION & ADJUDICATION PROGRAM

130 South Capitol Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

October 15, 2012

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Dear Water Right Owners:

The adjudication of the water rights in the Carlsbad Irrigation District ("CID") began when the State of New Mexico ("State") filed the *State v. Lewis* case in 1956. The documents accompanying this letter are notice to you that the State has commenced the final phase of the CID adjudication.

For much of the history of the CID adjudication, the State joined every individual water-right claimant in the CID, seeking a court order that would adjudicate each claimant's water right. Court orders have been entered establishing, between the State and each CID claimant, the surface water rights of every individual owner.

The last phase of a water right adjudication in New Mexico is called "Inter Se." It is a process that allows you an opportunity to review any water right determined between the State and another claimant in the CID, and to object to that determination if you find fault with it. Once the Inter Se process is finished, the Court will enter a Partial Final Decree, and the adjudication of the surface and supplemental water rights in the CID will be completed.

Accompanying this letter is the Notice of Proposed Partial Final Judgment and Decree on Surface Water Rights and Supplemental Rights in the Membership Phase of the Carlsbad Irrigation District Section of the Pecos River Stream System Adjudication (the "Notice of Proposed Decree").

The Notice of Proposed Decree describes the procedures that you must follow if you intend to participate in the *Inter Se* process. Attached to it is a copy of the Proposed Decree itself.

While the Proposed Decree itself is only seven pages, it includes a massive set of Appendices consisting of eight volumes and five large map tubes. These volumes and maps contain information about each individual water right, including yours, as well as information about the entire CID adjudication process. Because of the massive size of the Appendices, they can only be viewed at the locations described in the Notice of Proposed Decree and at the Office of the State Engineer website at http://www.ose.state.nm.us/LAP/CID/decree.html.

You can use the Appendices and maps to learn about the adjudicated water rights of every claimant in the CID adjudication. If you wish to object to the water rights of a particular

individual you must file an objection on the form entitled *Inter Se* Objection to Water Rights Used Within the CID. You may not object to your own water right.

You must file the Inter Se Objection form no later than November 19, 2012.

Even if you do not file an objection, you may participate in resolving objections that are filed by other claimants. Once the deadline for objections has passed, the State will provide a Report of all objections that have been filed. This Report will be made available at the same locations listed in the Notice of Proposed Decree and the website described above. Thereafter, if you wish to participate in resolving one or more of the objections, you must file the Notice of Intent to Participate form which accompanies this letter.

You must file the Intent to Participate form no later than January 18, 2013.

Please read the enclosed documents carefully. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Gary Storm at 1-800-928-3766 (press 2 at the voice prompt).

Sincerely,

Gary B. Storm, Cynthia Sully

Special Assistant Attorneys General

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